

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2641
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2001
STARVATION DEATH IN ORISSA
MINATI SEN;RAM CHANDRA DOME

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether Government are aware of the news-item captioned "Spectre of Starvation deaths looms over drought-hit Orissa" appearing in Hindustan Times dated December 14, 2000;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the State Government has sought the financial assistance of Rs.443 crore for drought-affected districts from the Union Government; and
- (d) if so, the amount of financial assistance provided to the State Government of Orissa?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

- (a) & (b): No reports on deaths due to starvation have been received from the Government of Orissa.
- (c) & (d): In response to the State Government's request seeking additional assistance of Rs.443.95 crore in the wake of drought, assistance of Rs.35.00 crore from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) has been released to the State. Also, Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for 2000-01 amounting to Rs.82.10 crore and advance of 25% of Central share of CRF for 2001-02 amounting to Rs.21.55 crore have been released to the State.